

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

Claims 1-20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (previously presented) A process for the manufacture of a prefilled syringe type ampoule having a) a barrel with a front end²⁷ and a rear end defining an axis therebetween, the barrel having substantially constant cross-section between the front end and the rear end, at least the front end ending in an opening, b) a sealer²¹ attached to the front end and sealing the front end opening, c) at least one piston³ movably and sealingly arranged within the barrel and d) a sleeve^{7,28} extending along at least a part of the barrel, the sleeve having a front part and rear part, the front part being connected to the sealer, wherein the process comprises the steps of

inserting the piston through the front end opening to a distance from the front end opening into a sealing engagement with the barrel interior to form a chamber between the piston and the front end opening,

filling material into the chamber by passing the material through the front end opening and

sealing the front end opening with the sealer.

Claim 22 (currently amended) The process of claim 21, wherein a lyophilizing step is performed before the step of sealing the front end opening with the sealer ~~sealing step~~.

Claim 23 (currently amended) The process of claim 21, wherein the step of sealing the front end opening with the sealer ~~step~~ includes the step of inserting a sealer part into the front end opening and contacting the sealer part with an interior surface of the barrel adjacent the front end opening.

Claim 24 (currently amended) The process of claim 21, further comprising the step of connecting the front part of the sleeve to the sealer after the sealing step of sealing the front end opening with the sealer.

C 1
Claim 25 (previously presented) The process of claim 24, further comprising the step of securing the sleeve to the barrel rear end.

Claim 26 (previously presented) The process of claim 21, further comprising the step of inserting a second piston through a rear opening at the rear end of the barrel.

Claim 27 (previously presented) The process of claim 26, further comprising the step of performing a filling operation through the rear opening before inserting the second piston.

Claims 28-102 (canceled)

C 2
Claim 103 (new) The process of claim 22, further comprising the step of connecting the front part of the sleeve to the sealer after the step of sealing the front end opening with the sealer.

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Claim 104 (new) The process of claim 103, further comprising the step of securing the sleeve to the barrel rear end.

Claim 105 (new) The process of claim 103, wherein the step of sealing the front end opening with the sealer is performed in a sterilization zone and wherein the step of connecting the front part of the sleeve to the sealer is performed outside the sterilization zone.

Claim 106 (new) The process of claim 105, further comprising the step of inserting a second piston through a rear opening at the rear end of the barrel, wherein the step of inserting the second piston is performed in the sterilization zone prior to the step of connecting the front part of the sleeve to the sealer.

C² Claim 107 (new) The process of claim 106, further comprising the step of performing a filling operation through the rear opening in the sterilization zone before inserting the second piston.

Claim 108 (new) The process of claim 21, wherein the material in the chamber is lyophilized before the step of sealing the front end opening.

Claim 109 (new) The process of claim 22, wherein the step of sealing the front end opening with the sealer includes the step of inserting a sealer part into the front end opening and contacting the sealer part with an interior surface of the barrel adjacent the front end opening.

Claim 110 (new) The process of claim 22, further comprising the step of inserting a second piston through a rear opening at the rear end of the barrel.

Claim 111 (new) The process of claim 110, further comprising the step of performing a filling operation through the rear opening before inserting the second piston.

Claim 112 (new) The process of claim 24, wherein the step of sealing the front end opening with the sealer is performed in a sterilization zone and wherein the step of connecting the front part of the sleeve to the sealer is performed outside the sterilization zone.

Claim 113 (new) The process of claim 112, further comprising the step of inserting a second piston through a rear opening at the rear end of the barrel, wherein the step of inserting the second piston is performed in the sterilization zone prior to the step of connecting the front part of the sleeve to the sealer.

Claim 114 (new) The process of claim 113, further comprising the step of performing a filling operation through the rear opening in the sterilization zone before inserting the second piston.

C²
Claim 115 (new) A process for the manufacture of a prefilled syringe type ampoule having a) a barrel with a front end and a rear end defining an axis therebetween, the barrel having substantially constant cross-section between the front end and the rear end, at least the front end ending in an opening, b) a sealer attached to the front end and sealing the front end opening, and c) at least one piston movably and sealingly arranged within the barrel, wherein the process comprises the steps of

inserting the piston through the front end opening to a distance from the front end opening into a sealing engagement with the barrel interior to form a chamber between the piston and the front end opening,

filling material into the chamber by passing the material through the front end opening,

lyophilizing the material in the chamber, and

sealing the front end opening with the sealer.

Claim 116 (new) The process of claim 115, wherein the step of sealing the front end opening with the sealer includes the step of inserting a sealer part into the front end opening and contacting the sealer part with an interior surface of the barrel adjacent the front end opening.

C²
Claim 117 (new) A process for the manufacture of a prefilled syringe type ampoule having a) a barrel with a front end and a rear end defining an axis therebetween, the barrel having substantially constant cross-section between the front end and the rear end, at least the front end ending in an opening, b) a sealer attached to the front end and sealing the front end opening, and c) at least one piston movably and sealingly arranged within the barrel, wherein the process comprises the steps of

inserting the piston through the front end opening to a distance from the front end opening into a sealing engagement with the barrel interior to form a chamber between the piston and the front end opening,

filling material into the chamber by passing the material through the front end opening,

sealing the front end opening with the sealer, and

performing a lyophilizing step before the step of sealing the front end opening with the sealer.

Claim 118 (new) The process of claim 117, wherein the step of sealing the front end opening with the sealer includes the step of inserting a sealer part into the front end opening and contacting the sealer part with an interior surface of the barrel adjacent the front end opening.

Claim 119 (new) The process of claim 117, further comprising the step of inserting a second piston through a rear opening at the rear end of the barrel.

Claim 120 (new) The process of claim 119, further comprising the step of performing a filling operation through the rear opening before inserting the second piston.

Claim 121 (new) The process of claim 117, wherein the material in the chamber is lyophilized before the step of sealing the front end opening.

C²
Claim 122 (new) A process for the manufacture of a prefilled syringe type ampoule having a) a barrel with a front end and a rear end defining an axis therebetween, the barrel having substantially constant cross-section between the front end and the rear end, at least the front end ending in an opening, b) a sealer attached to the front end and sealing the front end opening, and c) at least one piston movably and sealingly arranged within the barrel, wherein the process comprises the steps of

inserting the piston through the front end opening to a distance from the front end opening into a sealing engagement with the barrel interior to form a chamber between the piston and the front end opening,

filling material into the chamber by passing the material through the front end opening,

sealing the front end opening with the sealer, and

inserting a second piston through a rear opening at the rear end of the barrel.

C² Claim 123 (new) The process of claim 122, wherein the step of sealing the front end opening with the sealer includes the step of inserting a sealer part into the front end opening and contacting the sealer part with an interior surface of the barrel adjacent the front end opening.

Claim 124 (new) The process of claim 122, further comprising the step of performing a filling operation through the rear opening before inserting the second piston.
